

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

UNCLAS STATE 300406

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: N/A

SUBJECT: FILM RETROSPECTIVE

REFERENCE: BERLIN 7151-C

1. IEU DESK OFFICER AND BERLIN APAO RUEDY DISCUSSED PROJECT WITH IMV, WORKING TOWARDS MARCH 1977 DATE GIVEN IN REFTEL. TWO IMMEDIATE SUGGESTIONS ARE PROPOSED.

2. FIRST SUGGESTION IS TO BUILD PROGRAM AROUND FRANK CAPRA PACKAGE DESCRIBED IN CM-1221-U, OCTOBER 22, 1976, WHICH POST SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED. THIS INCLUDES 2 HOURS 20 MINUTES OF VTR INTERVIEWS WITH CAPRA, THREE CAPRA FEATURE FILMS IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE, AND POSSIBLY VISIT BY CAPRA (WHO IS A VIGOROUS 79 BUT NOW RECOVERING FROM RECENT BACK INJURY) OR ONE OF INTERVIEWERS, WHO WOULD BE AUTHORITY IN HIS FIELD. FEATURE FILMS ARE IN ENGLISH BUT POST MAY WISH TO INVESTIGATE AVAILABILITY THESE OR OTHER CAPRA FILMS IN GERMAN VERSION FOR GDR FILM ARCHIVES OR FRG SOURCES.

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3. SECOND SUGGESTION BASED ON FACT THAT MOTION PICTURE ACADEMY OF

ARTS AND SCIENCES (WHICH ANNUALLY AWARDS OSCARS), CELEBRATES ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY IN 1977. PROPOSED MARCH DATE FOR RETROSPECTIVE MEANS AGENCY COULD NOT COUNT ON USING ACADEMY MATERIALS PREPARED FOR THE ANNIVERSARY. RETROSPECTIVE, HOWEVER, COULD POTENTIALLY DRAW ON FIFTY YEARS OF OSCAR-WINNING FILMS, MANY OF WHICH WOULD BE AVAILABLE IN GDR FILM ARCHIVES OR ELSEWHERE IN GERMAN VERSIONS. IF YOU ACCEPT THIS IDEA, AGENCY COULD MAKE SOME SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS. IN ADDITION, WE WOULD PROPOSE INVESTIGATING POSSIBILITY FILM HISTORIAN VISIT TO COMPLEMENT RETROSPECTIVE.

4. IF VISIT BY APPROPRIATE SPECIALIST CAN BE ARRANGED, POST MAY WISH TO CONSIDER SEMINAR DURING RETROSPECTIVE.

5. ADVISE SOONEST POST PREFERENCE, AND FURTHER DETAILS POST PLANS.
ROBINSON

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